

as they are, will not, under these conditions, always remain helpless and hungry.

The gentleness and obedience of these children are continually remarked. Has hardship broken them? We cannot know this; but I have been impelled to make all regulations with them very gentle, and have made it known that, so far as my word had any power, never one of these children should be struck. They were children of sorrow, they had had their share of grief. I would institute one method of correction, if any were needed, as follows. Each child wears, sewn firmly to the garment at the left shoulder or armpit, a little red cross, of perhaps an inch in size. They are very proud of this; it is their badge of distinction. The regulation for deportment is that if any child so far transgresses as to make it necessary, the red cross is to be taken off and withheld until the child is good again. So far only one instance has been officially reported. One little girl of eight or ten years old disobeyed, was reasoned with, but remained stubborn, and it was decided to take off the cross. She bore this stoically for some time, but finally the change became apparent even to herself. She alone was dishonored, these other children were all the world to her, she knew no other. All the world, then, was against her. "Public opinion was down on her." She commenced to cry—a nervous, sensitive, little thing; symptoms of convulsions appeared, and all hands hastened to get the cross back again as quickly as possible. It was as we had expected—no child could endure it. Public opinion is a terrible power.

I would have it distinctly borne in mind that this work includes only the *children of the reconcentrados* and not the general orphans of the Island, which, like orphans everywhere have some connection with someone, somewhere. That general work is left to other agencies which will follow in time and do excellent educational work. This is a work of life and death.

The Red Cross, at the instance of President McKinley, commenced the relief of the reconcentrados of Cuba nearly two years ago.

The war intervened. The blockade shut us out. Returning to search an entrance made by our troops, we found the troops themselves. The S. S. State of Texas with its reconcentrado supplies was not without use at Siboney and Santiago. We tried again at Havana—found it still a Spanish port and could not enter—left its waters and waited; but faithful to its work, returned to Havana a few months later to find, that naturally, the mothers had starved in the streets of the towns where they had been driven and the children ran about alone.

This then became the remnant of the work we went to do months before America had fought a Cuban war and buried her dead.

The war is ended, but the Red Cross still stands in its tracks with the fifty thousand reconcentrado orphans on its hands. Its agents work faithfully on, gathering them up

out of pollution and death. Its source of supplies is the American people and that only.

We believe that with as many dollars as there are estimated children, aided by the Cuban people themselves, these children can all be taken up as shown, placed in their little home asylums, learn to work and become healthful adjuncts of a community rather than a pest. A very few months would accomplish this and the Red Cross, longer in the field than all others, more hard worked and weary than all would rejoice, close its work and come home.

CLARA BARTON.

An Up-to-Date Superintendent

Rev. Harry M. Chalfant.

Aside from the pastor, there is no officer in the local church whose responsibility is equal to that of the Sunday-school superintendent. Great and inconceivable are the possibilities of the trust committed to his care. The toilers of the vineyard in the days that are to come, with few exceptions, are affected by his influence, and their usefulness is largely determined by the wisdom and zeal with which he pursues his work. Fortunate for the school and church will it be if the magnitude of this responsibility is made manifest to his own soul and the necessity of divine help constantly realized.

The superintendent stands in much the same relation to his teachers and school that a college president does to his faculty and students. Tho the former may not have the latter's learning, nor his speech-making ability, nor his wide reputation, yet many of the elements of success in a college president are found to characterize the up-to-date superintendent.

No institution of learning with a hundred or a thousand students is managed to the greatest good of all concerned without a head who is master of details and has system in his work. Students know the exact hours for opening and closing sessions, and these do not vary. Classes move with promptness and precision. Instructors are given a definite time in which to present a definite subject.

An otherwise well-qualified superintendent may fail from lack of system. His teachers and pupils should early learn that school opens without a minute's variation; that every tap of the little bell has a meaning; that everyone is expected to obey signals with the promptness of trained soldiery.

The modern college president uses every conceivable means to keep his school and work before the public. He calls into requisition the press, the pulpit, the students, the faculty; he builds a gymnasium, replenishes the library, provides a reading room. All these things pay, because they bring new students. Likewise the up-to-date superintendent keeps his school and work before the eyes of the community. The various enterprises of the school are constantly brought to the attention of the people thru the local press, the pulpit, the teachers, and the schol-

ars. By some means or other good new books are getting into the library continually, and attractive, readable, wholesome papers go into the hands of the scholars every Sunday. So the school grows and prospers because it has attractions for the children.

No wise educator presumes to direct the affairs of a college or university without the weekly faculty meeting. There the work is reviewed, plans formulated, the cases of incorrigible and dilatory students considered, and counsel sought and given on a variety of subjects. Not only for the study of the lesson, but for the very same reasons enumerated, the wide awake superintendent will have a weekly conference with his assistants. They have their difficulties with individual scholars, and need the counsel and help of their associates in the work. This meeting is necessary to bring the superintendent into closer touch and sympathy with his teachers. He must know them in order to use them to the best advantage. Working in and thru them he touches and moves the school. He ought to be familiar with their daily lives, conversant with their methods of instruction and know their degree of success in interesting and holding a class. He will be quick to recognize and approve meritorious work, and just as alert to offer helpful criticism when there arises occasion for it.

The college president is a man of one work. There was a time when, in addition to performing the duties of this office, he could be pastor of a church, editor of a newspaper, and, perchance, a life insurance agent. It is not that way in these days. Ours is the age of the specialist, and the successful man is he who is wholly consecrated to one work. It is the same with the up-to-date superintendent. He does not hold all the offices of the church, doing a little of everything and not much of anything. The church may seek to honor him with the office of class leader, steward, trustee, and Epworth League president, but he declines the honor, saying, "This one thing I do." A work so all important as his deserves and receives his undivided attention. If full consecration is necessary to success in a secular calling, how vitally essential in such a position as this—one which carries with it no material rewards, a work purely of love, demanding patient continuance often in the face of adverse and unkind criticism. Who is equal to the task save only he whose heart is fully devoted to the glory of God and the salvation of immortal souls? Pushing his plans with tireless energy, his work continually absorbs his best thoughts. Being in unbroken contact with the divine Spirit, he is endured with wisdom and power, and knows naught but success.

The higher and more consecrated the individual life, the clearer will probably be its recognition of its dependence upon and guidance by the God who is acknowledged in all its ways.

Nature works for him who works for God.